

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0113
INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12294

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PDEV, MASS, SO, ET, GW
SUBJECT: FRG AID FOR ETHIOPIA AND SOMALIA

1. IN RESPONSE TO A PRESS STORY ATTACKING CONTINUING
FRG AID TO ETHIOPIAN POLICE, FOREIGN OFFICE SPOKESMAN
CONFIRMED ON JULY 25 THAT:

-- THE FRG IS, AND HAS BEEN SINCE 1965, EXTENDING
ASSISTANCE TO THE ETHIOPIAN POLICE. TOTAL AID SINCE
1965 AMOUNTED TO DM 63 MILLION. AID LEVEL FOR
1976-78 IS DM 5 MILLION.

-- THIS ASSISTANCE IS "INFRASTRUCTURE AID,"
NOT MILITARY ASSISTANCE. IT CONSISTS OF SOME
(UNSPECIFIED) VEHICLES FROM BUNDESWEHR STOCKS,
240,000 METERS OF MATERIAL FOR UNIFORMS, 30,000
BLANKETS, 26,500 OVERCOATS, RADIO EQUIPMENT AND
GENERATORS FOR TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT.

-- THE AGREEMENT ALSO PROVIDES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF POLICE COLLEGES IN ETHIOPIA. A BUNDESWEHR
LIEUTENANT COLONEL AND A SARGENT MAJOR ARE STATIONED
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IN ETHIOPIA AS ADVISERS TO THE POLICE.

2. FONOFF CONFIRMED TO EMBASSY JULY 26 THAT 15
WOUNDED ETHIOPIAN SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN TREATED IN
MILITARY HOSPITALS IN HAMBURG AND KOBLENZ. ALL BUT TWO
HAVE LEFT THE FRG. IF ASKED, THE FONOFF WILL DESCRIBE
THIS ASSISTANCE AS HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE GIVEN UPON

REQUEST WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE OR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.

3. IF FRG ASSISTANCE TO POLICE IN EITHER ETHIOPIA OR SOMALIA IS CHALLENGED AS BEING CONTRARY TO PROHIBITION ON GERMAN MILITARY AID TO AREAS OF TENSION, FONOFF PLANS TO REPLY THAT THE GERMAN DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA HAVE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO INVESTIGATE IF GERMAN EQUIPMENT IS ACTUALLY BEING USED IN MILITARY ACTIONS' THE FONOFF (MUELLER, AFRICAN DEPARTMENT) HAS TOLD US PRIVATELY THAT HE PERSONALLY DOES NOT WANT TO SUSPEND THE POLICE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM IN SOMALIA. HOWEVER, IF THE PROGRAM IS SUSPENDED IN ETHIOPIA, THE FRG WILL BE OBLIGED, ALSO, TO SUSPEND THE PROGRAM IN SOMALIA. THE FONOFF, THEREFORE, INTENDS TO TREAT THE WHOLE MATTER IN AS LOW A KEY AS POSSIBLE IN THE HOPE THAT INTEREST IN THE FRG PROGRAMS IN THE HORN WILL DIE AWAY.
STOESSEL

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